

## Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY  
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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—so long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1903.

## Will Wait Awhile.

In the exciting campaign preceding the special election held on Tuesday much talk was heard about annexation to Newark. Some people asserted that the defeat of the proposition to purchase the Orange Water Company's plant for \$150,000 meant certain and speedy annexation to Newark. Others were equally positive that a majority vote in favor of purchase meant that the opposition would certify the proceedings, and that while the case was pending in the Court a bill would be pushed through the Legislature annexing this town to Newark. The News has heretofore given encouragement to annexation movements in this town, and it was a surprise to many News readers to see in that paper on the 8th inst. an editorial showing a disposition to leave annexation in abeyance until such time as the majority sentiment here favors such a move. The News said:

"The question of annexation to Newark is not likely to play the important part that some people have supposed in the election next Tuesday, when the proposition to purchase the distributing plant of the Orange Water Company is to be submitted to the voters of Bloomfield for their approval or rejection. The division of sentiment as to the advisability of purchasing the plant is almost entirely on the question as to whether the selling price fixed by the water company is an equitable one. The majority of the members of the Town Council have gone on record as holding that the town would secure a bargain by authorizing the purchase at \$150,000, while many other leading citizens are as confidently certain that the price asked is much too high.

"That is the one issue that the voters of Bloomfield will have to decide for themselves next Tuesday. It may be taken for granted that the annexation talk is put forward at this time in the hope of influencing anti-annexationists to vote for the purchase of the plant. No intelligent voter should be deceived by such an argument. It has been shown that the time is not ripe as yet for the annexation of Bloomfield to Newark, in the estimation of a majority of that town, and that issue should cut no figure whatever in the vote on the water question, which is merely a matter of economics. It is possible that a new plant could be constructed for less than the old one can be purchased for."

## Tuesday's Election.

Tuesday's election was a simple and ideal affair and illustrative of theoretical democracy. No artifices were resorted to on election day to bring out the vote. There was a refreshing absence of the ticket peddlers, rumor agents, coach drivers and the several other paid employees of the political party machine that tend to make a general election day a travesty on republican institutions and theories. People walked from their homes to the polls and deposited their ballots without solicitation, argument or molestation. The free and untrammelled expression of popular will is of great value in determining public policy. It behooves those responsible for the administration of public affairs to strive studiously to arrive at a proper interpretation of the public sentiment as expressed at the polls.

## A Long Lease.

The Public Service Corporation has thus far been unable to acquire all the stock of the Orange and Passaic Valley Railway Company, and as a consequence has been compelled to lease that railroad property, and the lease was placed on file in the Register's office Thursday and is for a period of 900 years.

It is agreed that the lessee pay to the lessor \$3,000 May 1, 1904, and that this amount is to be paid every six months thereafter until November 1, 1905. On that date the lessee is to pay \$3,750, and this is to be paid every six months until November 1, 1906, when the amount will be increased to \$4,500. After that date the payments will be increased by \$750 annually until May 1, 1913. After that date the payments are \$9,900 semi-annually until the expiration of the lease.

Miss Mable May Monks of this town has issued a book entitled "Lyrics of Nature."

## Election Bills.

The compensation of election officers for services rendered in the Constitutional Amendment election is a disputed question. According to some authorities quoted the members of the Board of Registry and Election throughout the State are entitled only \$8 for that service. Just previous to the general election the election officers were the recipients of an offer to prosecute a claim of \$25 for each of them on a basis of \$3 each. The lawyer proposing to collect the bill was to make no charge unless he won his suit. The local election officers were advised to charge the same for their services in a special election as in a general election, and made out their bills accordingly, but it will probably be some time before they get their money.

Election bills amounting to about \$3,000 were held up by the Finance Committee of the Board of Freeholders at a meeting on Wednesday. Most of the claims objected to were for services rendered in connection with the Constitutional Amendment election, the expense of which, County Counsel Munn asserted, must be borne by the State and not by the county. Other bills were laid aside merely because the committee thought they were too high.

Mr. Munn was late in arriving at the meeting, and several bills had been approved by the committee when he appeared, just in time to hear read by Auditor Conklin a bill of \$249.12 from Sheriff Nicoll for services in posting notices of the Constitutional election.

"Here! That won't do," exclaimed Mr. Munn. "This county isn't going to pay a cent of any cost of the special election. The State agreed to pay that, and bills appropriating about \$12,000 for that purpose were passed by the Legislature. It was the intent of the Legislature to provide enough money for the entire election, but through some oversight it was not done. I have no doubt that at the next session this defect will be remedied. But this board has no right to pay these bills and trust to getting back the money from the State. Lay all such bills aside. When the State provides the money they will be paid."

This was news to the Freeholders, but they took the counsel's advice and the Sheriff's bill went into a pile that rapidly accumulated. Among the claims laid aside were those for advertising the election, printing and stationery bills, and even the bills of each member of the County Board of Elections, at \$10 a member, for the two days each served as a board of registry. A number of bills were submitted in which persons charged for services at the regular and special election. The items for the regular election were passed, but the others were not.

## Tax Duplicate Approved.

The tax duplicate submitted by the Board of Assessors several weeks ago was approved by the Town Council Monday night, November 2, in its original form and without modification. Action on the duplicate was taken at the installation of Councilman Walker, who stated that he had been informed by Tax Collector Foster that many people were making inquiries at the tax office about their tax bills, and wanted to know why they did not receive them.

When the tax duplicate was submitted some time ago some of the Councilmen were desirous of investigating it for the purpose of ascertaining why there had not been a larger increase in tax rates than was shown in the returns of the Board of Assessors. The public buildings agitation and the water question coming up absorbed the attention of the Councilmen to such a degree that the proposed inquiry into the assessments did not take place. Messrs. Moore and Farrand, who were chiefly desirous of investigating the duplicate opposed its approval on Monday night, but Messrs. Conlan, Chabot, Harrison and Walker voted in the affirmative. Mr. Farrand objected on the ground that he could not vote to approve the duplicate as submitted to the Council. The question of the right of the Council to make changes in the duplicate was brought up.

Councilmen Farrand and Moore voted against Mr. Walker's motion, and Councilmen Conlan, Harrison and Chabot voted with Mr. Walker.

## Charter Amendment Proposed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: There should be a movement started in this town in favor of requesting the Legislature to make the necessary changes in the town charter that will enable the town to have an excise board and the members of it to be elected by popular vote. For several years now the saloon license question has predominated in local politics, and everything else has been secondary to it. The sentiment that actuates the people who are desirous of keeping the number of places in which intoxicating liquor is sold down to the minimum is commendable. There is a grave question whether or not the town is losing physically as much as it gains morally by making the saloon the paramount issue in the annual election. Some people who would make able Councilmen will not face the annual scrimmage with license applicants and their constituency and brewery attorneys. It is a disagreeable and trying ordeal, and it is not to be wondered at that not a few citizens whose services in a public capacity would be highly beneficial to the community will not accept the position of moral sponsor

for the town as well as physical director. It has always appeared as if the effort to improve the moral condition of the town by reducing the number of saloons has been in the nature of a forcing process, and there is reasonable ground for the opinion that in direct conflict with the majority sentiment. This much is certain, that the opponents of saloons can go no further than a compromise, whereby the friends of the saloons name the candidates and the opponents of the saloons secure some advantage in forcing a pre-election promise policy. It is evident that with this contention over a single feature of municipal affairs ever uppermost, many other things of importance cannot command the attention due them. There is no objection to a perpetual warfare between saloon and anti-saloon people, but there is a desire that the battle ground be shifted to some other place, in order that the physical affairs of the town may get that share of attention of which they are deprived by reason of preponderance of a moral issue. An excise board elected by the people would correctly represent the majority public sentiment on the saloon question, and measures ought to be taken to procure an adjustment along that line. EQUITY.

## A Suggestion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: While the town of Bloomfield and the borough of Glen Ridge are for all purposes of government separate municipalities, there are some municipal matters in which the people of the two places have a common interest, and in regard to which a union of interests might prove of economic benefit to the taxpayers of both places without in the least impairing the independence of either. One of these questions is that of a water supply. Both places are dependent upon the Orange Water Company, and as it is commonly reported that the Orange Water Company is going out of business as soon as it can dispose of its property at a satisfactory price, it is likely that Glen Ridge as well as this town will soon be placed in a position where it will be expedient for the municipality to purchase the water company's plant in the borough and make arrangements for a supply of water from other sources than the present. Both the town and the borough are confronted with the same probability, and union of action in a common cause would seem to suggest itself as both reasonable and desirable from a business point of view. Much of the preliminary work that will be a necessity to any change in the ownership of the water plant and in securing a water supply could easily be done at once for both places by a joint commission and at a considerably less cost than if the dual process of independent action in each case is carried out. It is likely that much better terms could be made either in the purchase of the present plants or contracts for new plants or agreements for a water supply, if both places would combine their interests until whatever is necessary to do is accomplished, and then mutually adjust their separate interests between themselves. ECONOMY.

## A Statement.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: The publication in one of the Newark papers that I had been robbed of a gold watch and also of \$50 on the trolley to Orange leads me to say that part of this is true and part false. The facts are these: I rode down on a car Saturday evening, October 31, and got off at the crossing at Keyler's drug store. Just before the car stopped a tall, slender young man, masked, jumped on the step and pushed me to one side as he entered the car, followed by several others, also masked. On returning to my home I put my hand in my vest pocket for my watch and found it gone. There was, of course, no hope of being able to identify the man, so I did not report the matter to the police, especially as I found that the memorandum of the number of the case and movement had been mislaid. It does, however, show how easy it is for a pick-pocket to take advantage of a lot of boys and girls being allowed to run about the streets of your town disguised, and so ply their "trade" on any one they can. The question arises, "Should such things be allowed?" I think not, since it lays every householder in your town and vicinity open to attack from petty thieves. Yours very truly,

WM. C. SIMMONS,  
85 Baldwin street, Glen Ridge, N. J.

## Byrne-Hughes.

Edmond Byrne of this town, and Miss Margaret Hughes of Montclair, were married in the Church of the Immaculate Conception November 4, the Rev. J. F. Mendel officiating. Frank J. Spaulding was best man and Miss Julia Byrne, sister of the bridegroom, was bridesmaid. The couple will reside here.

The Bridge Committee of the Board of Freeholders recommends the building of new bridges over the Second river on Bloomfield avenue and on Franklin street.

## Banjo and Violin Instruction.

Mrs. and Miss Harding, instructors on banjo, violin, mandolin and guitar in Bloomfield, Monday and Friday of each week. For particulars address Harding Studio, 147 West 84th street, New York City.—Advt.

## Whistler and His Model.

James MacNeill Whistler once owed a female model \$5 for sittings. She was a Philistine of the Philistines, who knew nothing of her patron's fame and was in no way impressed with his work. One day she told another artist that she had been sitting to a little Frenchman called Whistler, who jumped about his studio and was always complaining that people were swindling him and that he was making very little money. The artist suggested that if she could get any piece of painting out of Whistler's studio he would give her \$50 for it. Although skeptical, the model decided to tell her "little Frenchman" of this too generous offer and selected one of the biggest and finest works in the studio. "What did he say?" asked the artist who had made the offer when the model appeared in a state of great excitement and looking almost as if she had come second best out of a scrimmage. "He said: 'Fifty dollars! Good heavens! Fifty dollars!' And he got so mad—well, that's how I came in here like this."

## Henley's Sufferings.

In fifty-four years of his life—he was born in 1840—W. E. Henley never knew what a day's perfect health meant. When little more than a boy he was attacked by a disease which necessitated the amputation of one foot. He was told later by the doctors that the sacrifice of the other leg was necessary were he to live. The fame of Dr. Lister had reached Henley, and, penniless and almost friendless, he determined to try Edinburgh infirmary. Thither he traveled third class in physical suffering such as few have known, and when he reached the infirmary his whole possessions amounted to a few shillings. His confidence in Lister was justified and his leg was saved. He was and remained a cripple, but neither hopeless nor helpless. His astounding pliancy under these conditions suggested to Robert Louis Stevenson the physical sketch of John Silver.

## The Test.

Lily—Well, did you see her? Is it true? Is she really engaged to him or is it only idle rumor?  
Nellie—There isn't a word of truth in it. I had a long talk with her and told her of the men who are just wild about me, and she never said a word about him.—Brooklyn Life.

## Substantial Recognition.

Mr. Thomas Moritz, Postmaster of Glen Ridge, has sent a substantial check to Chief Smith in recognition of the prompt and effective work done by the Glen Ridge fire department at the fire in the post office last Saturday night.

## Special Notice.

The attention of the Bee Hive, Newark, has been drawn to the fact that persons have been soliciting subscriptions to the various publications and fashion journals in their name. While they handle a full line of all fashion publications, they employ no solicitors, and those posing as such are impostors.

## NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given by the Local Board of Health of the Town of Bloomfield that an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Relating to Sewer Connections" will be finally considered at the next regular meeting of the Board to be held on Thursday, November 19th, 1903, at 8 p. m.

WM. L. JOHNSON,  
Secretary.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., Oct. 19, 1903.

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NEW ACCOUNTS RECEIVED

Interest Dividends Declared Jan. 1st and July 1st.

